Manager, Chief General Manager and above working in different departments of the State Bank of Indore, Head Office at Indore including the Managing Director (Shri C. Shivashankar) are facing charges of corruption, irregularities, defalcation, misappropriation which are pending decision of the Board of the Bank;

(b) how many of these officers have got promotions those found in corruption and their final decision is pending for action;

(c) the reasons for not taking serious action against them which are pending since last 5 years; and

(d) what action Government are contemplating to cleanse the 'State Bank of Indore' and within what period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Smuggling Activities in East Coast

3700. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of narcotics in the country is gradually being shifted by the smugglers from the west coast to the east coast;

(b) if so, what are the areas in the east coast identified for the possibility of smuggling activities; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The basic pattern of smuggling of narcotics in to the country, in respect of main drugs heroin and hashish from across Indo-Pak border and the West Coast remains unchanged. However, there is an increase in the number of seizures of heroin on East Coast bound for Sri Lanka.

(b) The coastal area of Tamil Nadu is vulnerable for smuggling of heroin from India to Sri Lanka.

(c) (1) Stringent laws have been enacted to combat drug trafficking.

(2) All enforcement agencies under the Central and State Governments have stepped up enforcement efforts in the vulnerable areas of East Coast.

(3) Capabilities of enforcement agencies have been strengthened with additional resources like vehicles, surveillance equipments, communication equipments, Lab facilities for testing of drugs, specialised training etc.

GIC's Functioning in Bihar

3701. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that General Insurance Companies are insuring the livestock including the poultry and crops, orchards of the farmers throughout the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many farmers had insured their livestocks and crops in the state of Bihar with the GICs during the last five years, year-wise;

(d) whether GICs business in the state of Bihar has been satisfactory;

(e) if not, the actions Government propose to take to popularise General Insurance in Bihar, particularly among the farmers of the state; and

(f) whether Government have formulated special General Insurance Plans for the drought affected areas; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.